

February 3, 1983

LB 50, 163

Are you ready for the vote? All those in favor vote aye, opposed vote no the motion to advance LB 163. Have you all voted? The Clerk will record the vote.

CLERK: 32 ayes, 0 nays, Mr. President, on the motion to advance the bill.

PRESIDENT: Motion carries. The bill is advanced. LB 50.

CLERK: Mr. President, LB 50 was introduced by Senators Haberman, Higgins, Remmers, DeCamp, Labedz, Chronister, Lowell Johnson, Kilgarin, Wagner and Howard Peterson. (Read title.) The bill was read on January 6th of this year. It was referred to the Public Works Committee for hearing. The bill was advanced to General File, Mr. President.

PRESIDENT: Who is handling the bill? Senator Labedz. Well, I'm new here, Senator Labedz. What is this thing called studded tires anyway? The Chair recognizes Senator Labedz.

SENATOR LABEDZ: I soon shall let you know. Thank you, Mr. President. Members of the Legislature, I certainly am not going to take too much time on LB 50. Most of you that were here last year knew that we talked about it considerably. When I tried to draw the bill out of committee and needed 30 thirty votes, I succeeded in that but because of the time I was unable to bring LB 824 at that time to be advanced from General File, so I will quickly for the benefit of those that are new go through some of my testimony that I gave last year. In my opinion the economic concerns regarding the use of studded tires must take a back seat to the added safety which studded tires gave to the citizens of Nebraska. The National Safety Council reports that studded tires improved the stopping distance by as much as 20 percent and the traction by more than 200 percent on icy streets and roads. Nebraska's Legislature, we must have recognized this safety factor because the studded tires in 1980 when it allowed their use by certain classes of individuals....

PRESIDENT: (Gavel.) A little order, please.

SENATOR LABEDZ: Even though the general public is now prohibited from using the studded tires if the injunction that I have now pending in the court is not...and we don't take up the case in February because if this bill advances, I, of course, will have that case dismissed. We did exempt doctors, police, fire and emergency vehicles, the rural mail carriers and handicapped persons. So evidently we did recognize there is a safety for those people. I believe